## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tsuyoshi YAMANE et al. : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2001 1217A

Filed August 30, 2001

RECYCLE SYSTEM OF AQUEOUS PAINT

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

## In the Claims:

Kindly amend claim 6 as follows.

6. (Amended) The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 1, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.

Kindly add new claims 7-10 as follows.

- 7. (New) The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 2, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.
- 8. (New) The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 3, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.

 9. (New) The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 4, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.

10. (New) The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 5, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.

## **REMARKS**

The above claim amendments are presented in order to remove multiple claim dependencies, so as to reduce the required filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "<u>Version with markings to show changes made</u>."

Respectfully submitted,

Tsuyoshi YAMANE et al.

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tank, a volume (Vs) of the booth circulation water in the settling tank and a volume (Vt) of the filtrate in the rinse tank, that is (Vw+Vx+Vy+Vz+Vs+Vt), is kept constant.

- 4. The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 1, wherein after operating the recycle system a certain period of time and stopping spray-coating, a necessary amount of the filtrate for cleaning the coating booth is sent from the filtrate bath to the spray-coating booth to clean inside the coating booth, and then sent to the condensation bath, followed by restarting spray-coating, thus keeping the liquid content of the recycle system constant.
- 5. The recycle system of aqueous paint according to claim 1, wherein after operating the recycle system a certain period of time and stopping spray-coating, a necessary amount of the filtrate for cleaning the coating booth is sent from the filtrate bath to the spray-coating booth to clean inside the coating booth, and then spray-coating re-starts, followed by supplying water into the condensation bath, thus keeping the liquid content of the recycle system constant.
- 6. The recycle system of aqueous paint according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, wherein the condensed paint is adjusted by adding another aqueous paint and volatile component and re-used as aqueous paint.